

Region 7 Accomplishments

Iowa CAFO Modernization Agreement: substantial commitment by Region 7's leading animal agriculture state to modernize its system for permitting, evaluating, inspecting, enforcing Clean Water Act; produced new investments by Iowa in inspectors, training, outreach, compliance; EPA R7 Regional Counsel/Water Division and HQ OECA teamed to obtain this agreement via negotiations; Iowa political leaders acknowledged EPA's important role in CWA implementation and praised Administrator's personal investment in obtaining positive outcome.

Carter Carburetor, St. Louis, MO: enforceable CERCLA order commits PRP to spend \$25MM over 4 years to clean up long-abandoned multi-block industrial property amidst EJ community in Region 7's largest city; celebrated with Mayor, Congressman, state legislators, faith leaders, community activists kick off; first phase of cleanup has removed asbestos and debris; with contamination cleanup and demolition to follow on schedule; redeemed agency commitment to make Superfund program serve disproportionately burdened communities.

Chanute, KS: EPA Region 7 finalized two settlements in last 100 days (Ash Grove and HBD) that will significantly improve air quality in Chanute. It's a good example of how community engagement efforts and enforcement worked together to improve air quality in a concerned community.

Administrator at Iowa State Fair: highly positive visit and speech about EPA and agriculture; Administrator lunched with Governor, Iowa Secretary of Agriculture, farm conservation leaders; substantial positive press coverage in both agriculture and conventional media that emphasized Administrator's fresh start with agriculture.

Kansas Delegated RCRA Corrective Action Program: Region 7 speed up delegation by innovative rulemaking; state welcomed authority to manage program; demonstrated Region 7 commitment to partnering with states; tangible positive benefits at Sunflower Army Ammunition Plant where cleanup accelerating and regulatory delays resolving toward multi-million dollar repurposing of largest tract of unbuilt land in Kansas City metropolitan area..

Fulton, MO, Waste Water Treatment Plant permit: Region 7 worked productively with Missouri Department of Natural Resources to resolve difficult CWA permitting disputes; communities freed to issue multi millions of bonds for much-needed modernization of outdated WWTP infrastructure; 303(d) waters will be cleaner because of investments and innovative problem-solving.

West Lake Landfill, St. Louis, MO: order to PRPs to do preliminary work for construction of isolation trench separating Bridgeton landfill smoldering event from area where RAD wastes are present; preserve integrity of EPA Superfund remedy selection; allayed community and political concerns in Region 7's largest city; furthered EPA's connections to various community groups through regular meetings, conferences, briefings of elected officials, media, community groups (CAG); strong working relationship with MO Attorney General.

SPCC Flexibility Letter from OECA: Region 7 worked with OECA to generate letter from AA exercising administrative discretion to avoid penalizing non-compliant farms/ranches; earned substantial positive media and congressional response, likewise from agriculture stakeholders; Region 7 brought issue to HQ attention, outlined flexibility approach, amplified throughout Region 7, with national benefits for agency relations with agriculture.

EPA Region 7: Anti-Bullying Policy establishes clear policy to preserve safe, professional, productive workplace; contributes to HPO goals; product of strong working relationship with AFGE, NTEU in R7.